

al or private considerations. He, (Mr. D.,) did not believe, as the gentleman from Charles believed, that all the discussions which might take place here would be of no service—that the minds of gentlemen were firmly made up on one given principle. He believed that there was yet hope that a principle conforming to the views of the people he represented might be adopted, and so long as that hope remained, he did not wish that the door should be closed against argument and conviction. A number of gentlemen had stated to him both yesterday and to-day, that they desired to express their opinions. Under such circumstances, how could he withdraw the motion he had made? He was willing to hear all that could be said. He believed that the people desired a full discussion, and that the opinions of representatives from every part of the State should be heard. He could not be induced, therefore, by any considerations, of a personal or private character, or by the regard, high as it was, which he felt for the gentleman from Charles, [Mr. Merrick,] to withdraw a motion which he regarded as essential to the public interests. When he had made a contract with the people to represent them in this Convention, he did so, knowing that the discharge of his duties here would be at war with his own private interests and convenience. Such was the case also with the gentleman from Charles. He, [Mr. D.,] did not doubt that that gentleman would be as true to the interests of his people, as he, [Mr. D.,] would be to his; and he felt sure that neither of them would allow any consideration to interfere with the discharge of their duty in one iota.

He hoped that the vote would be reconsidered, and that every gentleman might be allowed an opportunity to express his sentiments.

Mr. THOMAS said, that as he was not here when the order terminating the debate was adopted, he desired, before submitting the few remarks he intended to make, to enquire of the Chair whether the gentleman from Charles, [Mr. Merrick,] was correct in stating, that if the general discussion should be closed at two o'clock to-day, every member would have the privilege of moving any amendment he might think proper, and of indulging for five minutes in remarks explanatory of its character, object and intent?

THE PRESIDENT. Such is the import of the order.

Mr. THOMAS [continuing.] Then I respond fully and freely to every word that has fallen from the gentleman from Charles. I know that if the extent of our discussions and deliberations here is to be judged of by that which constitutes a part of our debates, the public at large will greatly misunderstand the extent of these deliberations and discussions. There is not a gentleman here who does not know that the public section of this body is more influenced by private deliberations and personal interviews of members, than by our open discussions. If, after having been here together nearly five, long, tedious months, and having in private intercourse fully interchanged opinions as to what should be the mode and the manner of performing our duty

on this great question, we are not prepared to vote, we shall not be prepared if we sit here six long years. The peculiar wishes, interests and desires of every portion of the community have been made known here in the fullest, clearest, and most minute manner. Of what avail then will further discussion be? Let us vote. I am in favor of voting for these considerations; we all know that there must be a compromise of extreme wishes and opinions on this question. We all know that we can come together by concession alone, and in no other form. We all know that gentlemen are not prepared to say what concessions they will make, until they know what concessions are indispensable. How are we to ascertain what are these indispensable concessions until we vote, and see by the record what propositions are hopeless, and what approximate nearest to the views of a majority of the Convention? Let us then vote during the after part of to-day and the whole of to-morrow, upon all propositions which may be offered. And if after all this it should be ascertained, from the informal interviews which take place amongst us in our messes and at our boarding houses, that this great question cannot be so decided as to give satisfaction, peace, and quiet to the public mind of Maryland, then we can reconsider and reopen the question whenever we may be convinced that some material good can be accomplished by doing so.

For my own part, I shall listen with great pleasure to any remarks that may be made. But I foresee that no gentleman can divulge any thing that is novel. From our boyhood to our manhood we have all heard these great questions examined, discussed, analysed and illustrated. And do gentlemen expect to hear any thing here to-day which will influence our judgment as to what it becomes one section of Maryland to concede to another?

With these views, and under an earnest and anxious desire to see the question brought to a vote upon every variety of proposition which may be submitted, I shall feel constrained to vote against the motion to reconsider.

Mr. BROWN asked the yeas and nays on the motion to reconsider.

Which were ordered.

The roll was called,

When the name of

Mr. JENIFER was called, that gentleman rose and said, that he had voted to fix the hour for the termination of the debate, but that, inasmuch as the Convention had indulged him a little more perhaps than other gentlemen, he would not vote at all on this motion.

The result of the vote was then announced, as follows:

*Affirmative.*—Messrs. Chapman, President, Morgan, Hopewell, Ricaud, Lee, Chambers, of Kent, Donaldson, Dorsey, Wells, Bond, John Dennis, James U. Dennis, Crisfield, Williams, Hicks, Goldsborough, Eccleston, Phelps, Sprigg, McCubbin, Dirickson, McMaster, Hearn, Fooks, Jacobs, Kilgour, Waters and Smith—28.

*Negative.*—Messrs. Blakistone, Kent, Sellman,